

Message Text

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21 11

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10

RSC-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FMC-04 INR-10 NSAE-00

CG-00 COA-02 DLOS-06 OIC-04 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

CCO-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-14 CEQ-02 DOTE-00 OMB-01

DRC-01 NSF-04 EPA-04 /213 W
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FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6872

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 2748

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: IMCO PBOR ETRN SENV FI

SUBJ: IMCO MARINE POLLUTION CONFERENCE: LOS ISSUES

REF: (A) STATE 209908; AND (B) LONDON 12260

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. FINNISH FOREIGN OFFICE HAS TENTATIVELY DECIDED TO HAVE ITS IMCO DELEGATION SUPPORT DELETION OF ARTICLE 8 IF THERE APPEARS TO BE TWO-THIRDS VOTE IN FAVOR OF SUCH A STEP. OTHERWISE, DELEGATION WILL GO ALONG WITH COMPROMISE LANGUAGE IN ARTICLE 8 ADOPTED BY COMMITTEE. FURTHER REVISIONS CAN BE ACCEPTED SO LONG AS FINNISH INTERESTS ARE NOT DISADVANTAGED. END SUMMARY.

2. ECONOMIC COUNSELOR ON OCTOBER 25 MET WITH EERO YRJOLA, ACTING CHIEF OF LEGAL AFFAIRS BUREAU OF FONOFF, WHO WAS FINNISH REPRESENTATIVE AT IMCO MEETINGS UNTIL PAST WEEKEND. ENSIO HELANIEMI IS NOW CONFIDENTIAL

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REPRESENTING FINLAND. IN RESPONSE OUR REQUEST FOR

SUPPORT IN PLENARY FOR DELETION OF ARTICLE 8 OF IMCO CONVENTION, YRJOLA SAID THAT FINNISH GOVERNMENT'S BASIC POSITION WAS TO SUPPORT DELETION OF ARTICLE BUT HE DID NOT HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO DURING COMMITTEE MEETINGS. COMPROMISE LANGUAGE SUGGESTED BY SWEDEN HOWEVER MET FINNISH REQUIREMENTS AND THUS FINNS GAVE THEIR SUPPORT IN THE COMMITTEE. THUS, IF ISSUE OF DELETION COMES UP IN THE PLENARY, HE PROPOSES TO HAVE INSTRUCTIONS SENT TO HIS DELEGATION WHICH WOULD PERMIT SUPPORT FOR DELETION OF THE ARTICLE, PROVIDED THERE APPEARS TO BE A TWO-THIRDS VOTE IN FAVOR OF SUCH A STEP. OTHERWISE, SINCE THE FINNISH DELEGATION HAS ALREADY GIVEN SUPPORT TO THE COMPROMISE ARTICLE 8 LANGUAGE IN THE COMMITTEE MEETING, IT WILL DO SO IN PLENARY. IF FURTHER CHANGES ARE PROPOSED FOR ARTICLE 8, FINNS WILL NOT OPPOSE SO LONG AS THEIR INTERESTS ARE NOT DISADVANTAGED. YRJOLA SAID HE WILL NEED TO COORDINATE ABOVE TENTATIVE POSITION WITH OTHER MINISTRIES OF HIS GOVERNMENT BUT THOUGH THEY WOULD GO ALONG. DURING EMBASSY MEETING WITH YRJOLA, GREEK EMBASSY OFFICIAL TELEPHONED FOR APPOINTMENT TO DISCUSS IMCO ISSUES. THIS APPOINTMENT IS SCHEDULED FOR AFTERNOON OCTOBER 26; THUS, FINNISH INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE SENT LONDON FOLLOWING THAT APPOINTMENT.

3. WE UNDERSTAND HELANIEMI IS NOT TOO FAMILIAR WITH IMCO MATTERS. SUGGEST THEREFORE WOULD BE USEFUL IF US REPRESENTATIVE COULD ALSO PRESENT USG VIEWS DIRECTLY TO HIM TO REINFORCE EMBASSY EFFORTS IN HELSINKI. BECAUSE OF DIVERGENT SITUATION IN EACH COUNTRY, WE UNDERSTAND THERE IS NO COORDINATED NORDIC POSITION ON ARTICLE 8.
KREHBIEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973HELSIN02748
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS KREHBIEL
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: HELSINKI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731010/aaaaagzc.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SCI
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE 209908; AND (B) LONDON 122, 60
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Sep-2001 by freemaal>; APPROVED <06-Nov-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IMCO MARINE POLLUTION CONFERENCE: LOS ISSUES
TAGS: PBOR, ETRN, SENV, FI, IMCO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005